

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 47259-5001-00-US (223490)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kazuaki OKUNO et al.) Confirmation No.: 9193
Application No.: 10/573,821) Group Art Unit: 1652
Filed: March 28, 2006) Examiner: Sheridan L. Swope

For: POLYPEPTIDE CLEAVAGE METHOD USING OmpT PROTEASE VARIANT

COMMENTS ON SUBSTANCE OF EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants' counsel held an interview with Examiner J. Burke on October 2, 2009. On October 7, 2009, the Office mailed an Interview Summary. Applicants accordingly provide comments on the interview, pursuant to MPEP § 713.04. The present response is timely filed by November 9, 2009, because November 7, 2009 falls on a Saturday.

During the interview, Applicants' counsel helped clarify the status of the claims (i.e., examined or withdrawn) with respect to overlapping subject matter in claims 1 and 12. Counsel was notified that the petition would be expedited in view of the fact that the petition was filed after three restriction requirements.

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Response to Interview Summary mailed October 7, 2009
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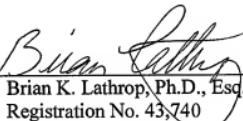
CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding Applicants' communication, please contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (202) 842-8862. Furthermore, please direct all correspondence to the below-listed address.

In the event that the Office believes that there are fees outstanding in the above-referenced matter and for purposes of maintaining pendency of the application, the Office is authorized to charge the outstanding fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. The Office is likewise authorized to credit any overpayment to the same Deposit Account Number.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: November 9, 2009 By:



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